



POC for the Autism Society Harford County Chapter:

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Or

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Email Breck or Rhonda for any questions relating to Autism:

- **Resources**
- **Services**
- **Support Groups**
- **Social Activities**
- **Research**

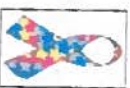
Here is what you will find at our website:

autism-society.org/chapter553

- **Events, Activities and Seminars happening in Harford County and throughout Maryland**
- **Social Opportunities in Harford County**
- **Monthly Support Group Meeting information to include times, locations, and topics to be discussed**
- **Videos**
- **Local Art Exhibit**



Autism is a complex developmental disability that typically appears during the first three years of life and affects a person's ability to communicate and interact with others. Autism is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is a "spectrum disorder" that affects individuals differently and to varying degrees. There is no known single cause for autism, but increased awareness and funding can help families today.



In December 2009, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued their ADDM autism prevalence report. The report concluded that the prevalence of autism had risen to 1 in every 110 births in the United States and almost 1 in 70 boys. The issuance of this report caused a media uproar, but the news was not a surprise to the Autism Society or to the 1.5 million Americans living with the effects of autism spectrum disorder.

Facts and Statistics

- 1 percent of the population of children in the U.S. ages 3-17 have an autism spectrum disorder.
- Prevalence is estimated at 1 in 110 births.
- 1 to 1.5 million Americans live with an autism spectrum disorder.
- Fastest-growing developmental disability: 1.148% growth rate.
- 10 - 17 % annual growth.
- \$60 billion annual cost.
- 60% of costs are in adult services.
- Cost of lifelong care can be reduced by 2/3 with early diagnosis and intervention.
- In 10 years, the annual cost will be \$200-400 billion.
- 1 percent of the adult population of the United Kingdom have an autism spectrum disorder.



Our Mission

Improving the lives of all affected by autism

Our Vision

The Autism Society is the leading voice and resource of the entire autism community in education, advocacy, services, research and support. The Autism Society is committed to meaningful participation and self-determination in all aspects of life for individuals on the autism spectrum and their families.

LOCAL SUPPORT GROUPS:

Everyone is welcome to our support group meeting that take place monthly at each location. Here you can meet other families to network, learn about valuable local resources, and share experiences.

BEL AIR:

Meets the third Monday of every month at the McFaul Activity Center from 0600 to 0800 PM. A structured social and childcare program is available (please RSVP...limited seating)

EDGEWOOD:

Meets the first Thursday of every month at the Edgewood Assembly of God from 0700 to 0900 PM.